

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions comprising at least the reaction of a tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide with an alcohol and an organic base which is more strongly basic than the alcohol.

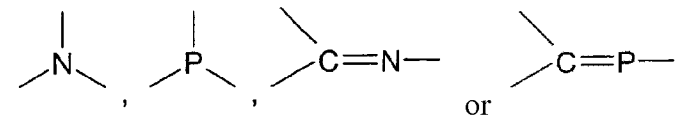
2. (Currently Amended) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to Claim 1, wherein the organic base employed is a compound of the general formula (1)

R_3X (1)

or of the general formula (2)

R_2Y (2)

in which

X denotes  or _____,

Y denotes -O-, -S-, -Se-, -C(=O)-, -C(=S)- or -C(=Se)-,

R denotes H for $Y \neq O$ and where, in the case of the formula (2), all R cannot simultaneously be H,

straight-chain or branched alkyl having 1-20 C atoms,

straight-chain or branched alkenyl having 2-20 C atoms and

one or more double bonds,

straight-chain or branched alkynyl having 2-20 C atoms and

one or more triple bonds or

saturated, partially or fully unsaturated cycloalkyl

having 3-7 C atoms, in particular phenyl,

which may be substituted by alkyl groups having 1-6 C atoms,

where the substituents R are in each case identical or different,

where the substituents R may be bonded to one another in pairs by a single or double bond,

where one or more, but not all, the substituents R may be partially or fully substituted by halogens, in particular -F and/or -Cl, or partially by -CN or -NO₂,

and where one or two non-adjacent carbon atoms of the substituent R may be replaced by atoms and/or atom groups selected from the group -O-, -C(O)-, -C(O)O-, -C(O)NH-, -C(O)NR'-, -S-, -S(O)-, -S(O)NH-, -S(O)NR'-, -S(O)O-, -S(O)₂-, -S(O)₂O-, -S(O)₂NH-, -S(O)₂NR'-, -N=, -N=N-, -NH-, -NR'-, -PH-, -PR'-, -P(O)R'-, -P(O)R'-O-, -O-P(O)R'-O- and -PR'₂=N- where R' = non-fluorinated, partially fluorinated or perfluorinated C₁- to C₆-alkyl, C₃- to C₇-cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or substituted phenyl or an unsubstituted or substituted heterocycle.

3. (Previously Presented) Process according to Claim 1, wherein the organic base employed is (C₂H₅)₃N, (C₂H₅)₂NH, (C₂H₅)₃P, (C₂H₅O)₃P, (C₄H₉)₃P, CH₃-S-CH₃, (CH₃)₂N-C(O)-N(CH₃)₂, C₆H₅-Se-C₆H₅, guanidine, pyridine, imidazole, N-methylimidazole, benzoxazole, benzothiazole, pyrrolidine, piperidine, piperazine, aniline, N,N-dimethylaniline, benzylamine, N-ethylbenzylamine or diphenyl sulfide.

4. (Previously Presented) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to claim 1, wherein the alcohol employed is an aliphatic alcohol.

5. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the alcohol employed is methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol, butanol, hexanol or benzyl alcohol.

6. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the alcohol employed is a fluorinated aliphatic alcohol.

7. (Previously Presented) Process according to claim 1, wherein the alcohol employed is an unsaturated alcohol.

8. (Previously Presented) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to claim 1, wherein the tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide employed is a tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide in which the three perfluoroalkyl groups are identical or different.

9. (Previously Presented) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to claim 1, wherein the tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide employed is a tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide in which the perfluoroalkyl groups contain 1 to 12 C atoms and are straight-chain or branched.

10. (Previously Presented) Process according to Claim 8, wherein the tris(perfluoroalkyl)phosphine oxide employed is $(\text{CF}_3)_3\text{P}(\text{O})$, $(\text{C}_2\text{F}_5)_3\text{P}(\text{O})$, $(\text{C}_3\text{F}_7)_3\text{P}(\text{O})$ or $(\text{C}_4\text{F}_9)_3\text{P}(\text{O})$.

11. (Previously Presented) Process for the preparation of organic salts containing bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anions according to Claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out at a temperature of -20°C to 200°C.

12. (Previously Presented) A process for the preparation of an ionic liquid, comprising preparing an organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion by a process according to claim 1 and formulating the salt into an ionic liquid.

13. (Previously Presented) A process for effecting phase-transfer catalysis, comprising preparing an organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion by a process according to claim 1 and subjecting said salt to a phase-transfer catalysis reaction.

14. (Previously Presented) A process for preparing an electrochemical cell, comprising preparing an organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion by a process according to claim 1 and placing said salt in an electrochemical cell.

15. (Currently Amended) A process for ~~achieving a plasticizing effect~~ producing a plasticized composition, comprising preparing an organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion by a process according to claim 1 and combining with materials to be plasticized.

16. (Previously Presented) A process for achieving a surfactant effect, comprising preparing an organic salt containing a bis(perfluoroalkyl)phosphinate anion according to claim 1 and combining with materials in which a surfactant effect is desired.